

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 FAA-00 SY-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /059 W

----- 101436

R 181400 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8877

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS : ETRN UR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: LENINGRAD HIJACKING

REF: STATE 090505

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL LENINGRAD ADVANCE TEAM OFFICERS
HAVE GLEANED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT ATTEMPTED HIJACKING
FROM THEIR SOURCES:

2. DATE AND TIME: APRIL 24, ABOUT 1700, ON SCHEDULED
LENINGRAD- MOSCOW FLIGHT (PRESUMABLY #2434).

3. NUMBER OF PASSENGERS: ABOUT 110; CREW : PILOT,
CO- PILOT, FLIGHT ENGINEER, TWO STEWARDESSES.

4. INJURIES AND DEATHS: FLIGHT ENGINEER AND HIJACKER
KILLED; NO OTHER DEATHS OR INJURIES.

5. HIJACKER IS DESCRIBED AS " FORMER PRISONER."

6. AIRCRAFT WAS TU-104.

7. EXPLOSIVE DEVICE UTILIZED DYNAMITE AND HAD MECHANICAL
INITIATOR. HIJACKER REPORTEDLY " HELD CORD IN TEETH."

8. EXPLOSION BLEW HOLE IN RIGHT SIDE OF FUSELAGE AFT
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OF PILOT'S COMPARTMENT AND AHEAD OF FIRST PASSENGER
COMPARTMENT.

9. ALTITUDE AT TIME OF EXPLOSION WAS BELOW 5000 FEET AND
PROBABLY EVEN LOWER THAN 1000 FEET, AS AIRCRAFT WAS ON
APPROACH TO RUNWAY AT LENINGRAD AIRPORT. WHEN HIJACKER
REALIZED AIRCRAFT WAS LANDING AGAIN AT LENINGRAD HE
YANKED DETONATOR. (OTHER REPORTS SUGGEST THAT PLANE HAD
ALREADY TOUCHED DOWN AT TIME OF EXPLOSION.) PRESSURE
DIFFERENTIAL WAS THUS MINIMAL.

10. SOURCES STATE THAT DURING INCIDENT THERE WAS CONSTANT
STREAM OF INSTRUCTIONS FROM LENINGRAD CONTROL TOWER TO
PILOT AND THAT PILOT REPORTEDLY RECEIVED PERMISSION TO
KILL HIJACKER. HIJACKER WAS INDUCED TO COME FORWARD
FROM PASSENGER COMPARTMENT INTO AREA BETWEEN PASSENGER
SECTION AND PILOT'S COMPARTMENT, WHERE FLIGHT ENGINEER
ATTEMPTED TO DISSUADE HIM FROM BLOWING UP LANCE AND
PASSENGERS.
DUBS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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